

REMARKS

Claims 1-88 are in the application.

Claims 1-88 are subject to restriction under 35 USC 121 as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-11, 13,18-23, 26-29, 31-41,45, 47-50, 53, 57-69, 71-84, drawn to an apparatus that emits acoustic energy classified in class 604, subclass 20.

Group II: Claim 85, drawn to a method for removing deposits on an implant, classified in class 606, subclass 128.

Group III: Claims 86-88, drawn to a method of assessing the state of fouling by deposits on an implant, classified in class 600, subclass 481.

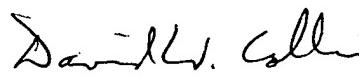
Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the Group I set of claims (Claims 1-11, 13,18-23, 26-29, 31-41, 45, 47-50, 53, 57-69, 71-84) Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more continuation or divisional applications to any of the non-elected claims or similar claims, or with claims to any subject matter disclosed in the present application.

Applicants understand that rejoinder of the non-elected claims may be considered if the non-elected claims require all the limitations an allowable product claim.

The application is considered to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to take such action. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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